

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

**WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS
LOUISIANA CROP PRODUCTION
GRAIN AND RICE STOCKS**

WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS

Winter wheat planted area for harvest in 2000 is estimated at 42.9 million acres. This is down 1 percent from 1999 and is the lowest level since 1972. Seeding started last August in the Pacific Northwest, some Mountain States, and Minnesota. Progress moved steadily forward through the fall, only slowing in some locations as farmers waited for rain. Seeding should finish sometime in February in California. About 98 percent of the U.S. acreage was seeded by December 1. Most remaining intended area is in the Southeast, California, and Texas.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) wheat seeded area is about 30.3 million acres, down 2 percent from 1999. Most HRW states have planted less wheat. Montana and South Dakota are notable exceptions; New Mexico and North Dakota also have increased. Dry conditions have plagued growers from Texas to Nebraska. Extreme dryness has covered much of Texas since August, particularly in the eastern half of the State. Considerable acreage was either dry planted or not planted at all. Lack of moisture stressed wheat across Oklahoma, but especially in the southern half of the State. Seeding was virtually complete in Kansas by the first week of November.

Soft Red Winter (SRW) wheat area is up slightly from last year, at about 9.2 million acres. This is due primarily to an increase of 180,000 acres in Arkansas where conditions are better than a year ago. Other notable increases are expected in Missouri, Tennessee, Mississippi, and North Carolina. Sharp acreage declines were reported in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia. Dry weather continues to be a concern for farmers in the Southeast.

White Winter wheat seeded area totals 3.4 million acres, down fractionally from 1999. Many farmers in Idaho worried about a lack of moisture for germination, but ample rains during November helped alleviate their concerns. Seeding was delayed in Oregon due to drought conditions in most of the State's wheat growing areas. Washington got off to a slow winter wheat season because of limited moisture at planting time.

Durum Wheat seedings in Arizona and California for 2000 harvest are placed at 170,000 acres. This total is up 3 percent from their final 1999 planting. Seeding in California's San Joaquin Valley progressed rapidly during October and November. Seeding began in the Imperial Valley in late November, and will continue into March as the winter vegetable harvest finishes.

Louisiana's expected winter wheat acres of 100,000 for 2000 is down 9 percent from 1999.



WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS

STATE	AREA PLANTED			
	1998	1999	2000	2000/1999
	-----1,000 Acres-----			Percent
Arkansas	980	970	1,150	119
Kansas	10,700	10,000	9,800	98
Louisiana	100	110	100	91
Mississippi	160	180	210	117
Texas	6,100	6,200	5,800	94
United States	46,449	43,431	42,916	99

LOUISIANA CROP PRODUCTION

Sugarcane set records for acreage, yield, and production in 1999. Production of other crops increased, except for corn, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician for the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Estimates for the 1999 crop year for all crops are as follows:

Corn for grain production was estimated at 39.9 million bushels, down 9 percent from 1998. Total acres planted was estimated at 340,000 of which 330,000 acres were harvested for grain. These were down 51 percent and 39 percent, respectively, from 1998. Yield per acre at 121 bushels, was a sharp increase of 40 bushels from 1998.

Cotton production was estimated at 900,000 bales, up 40 percent from the previous year. Total acres planted in 1999 was estimated at 615,000, of which 610,000 were harvested. These were up 15 and 16 percent from 1998. Yield per acre was estimated at 708 pounds, an increase of 122 pounds from 1998.

All Rice production, at 30.8 million cwt, was up 10 percent from the previous year. Production of long grain varieties was 29.1 million cwt, and production of medium grain varieties was 1.8 million cwt. All rice planted acres totaled 620,000, down 1 percent from 1998. The total consisted of 585,000 acres of long grain, and 35,000 acres of medium grain. All rice harvested, at 616,000 acres, was down 1 percent from 1998, with 581,000 long grain, and 35,000 medium grain. All rice yield was estimated at 5,000 pounds per acre; 5,000 pounds per acre for long grain, and 5,070 pounds per acre for medium grain. All rice yield was up 470 pounds per acre from the 1998 crop year.

Sorghum for grain production was estimated at 19.3 million bushels compared to 7.5 million bushels the previous year. Total acres planted was estimated at 240,000 acres, of which 235,000 acres were harvested for grain, up 85 percent and 88 percent, respectively, from 1998. Yield per acre at 82 bushels was up 22 bushels from 1998. This was the highest yield ever recorded in the State.

Soybean production, at 26.7 million bushels, was up 19 percent from last year. Total planted acres were down 15 percent from a year earlier to 1,020,000, of which 990,000 were harvested. Yield per acre at 27.0 bushels, was up 6 bushels from 1998.

Sugarcane production for sugar and seed was estimated at a record 15.3 million net tons, up 19 percent from the previous year's crop. This was the highest acreage, yield, and production ever recorded in the State. Louisiana moved ahead of Florida to become the number one State in the United States for sugarcane acreage in 1999. Yield per acre, estimated at 33.0 net tons, was up 3.3 net tons from a year ago.

Sweet potato production was estimated at 3.5 million cwt, up 57 percent from 1998. Total planted and harvested acres at 24,000 and 23,000, respectively, were up 14 and 15 percent from the previous year's crop. Yield per acre at 150 cwt, was up 40 cwt from a year earlier.

Hay production, at 912,000 tons, was up 26 percent from last year. Harvested acres totaled 380,000 acres, up 15 percent from 1998. Yield was estimated at 2.4 tons per acre, 0.2 ton above a year ago.

LOUISIANA: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION, 1999, WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY	ACREAGE		YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT		PRODUCTION	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	YIELD	PROD.	1998	1999
	Thousand Acres		Units				Thousand Units	
Corn, Grain	540	330	81	121	bushels	bushels	43,740	39,930
Corn, Silage	15	8	14	15	ton	ton	210	120
Cotton, Lint, All	525	610	586	708	pounds	bales 1/	641	900
Cottonseed	---	---	---	---	ton	ton	236	336
Hay, All (baled)	330	380	2.2	2.4	ton	ton	726	912
Rice, Long Grain	590	581	4,530	5,000	pounds	cwt	26,727	29,050
Rice, Medium Grain	30	35	4,600	5,070	pounds	cwt	1,380	1,175
Rice, All	620	616	4,530	5,000	pounds	cwt	28,107	30,825
Sorghum, Grain	125	235	60	82	bushels	bushels	7,500	19,270
Sorghum, Silage	2	1	10	12	ton	ton	20	12
Soybeans, Beans	1,070	990	21.0	27.0	bushels	bushels	22,470	26,730
Sugarcane, All 2/	435	465	29.7	33.0	ton 3/	ton 3/	12,920	15,345
Sweet Potatoes	20	23	110	150	cwt	cwt	2,200	3,450
Wheat, Winter	90	105	44	47	bushels	bushels	3,960	4,935

1/480-pound net weight bale; 2/Harvested for sugar and seed; 3/Net tons.

UNITED STATES: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION, 1999, WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY	ACREAGE		YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT		PRODUCTION	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	YIELD	PROD.	1998	1999
	Thousand Acres		Units				Thousand Units	
Corn, Grain	72,589	70,537	134.4	133.8	bushels	bushels	9,758,685	9,437,337
Corn, Silage	5,913	6,062	16.1	15.9	ton	ton	95,479	96,169
Cotton, All	10,683.6	13,381.0	625	608	pounds	bales 1/	13,918.2	16,952.9
Cottonseed	---	---	---	---	ton	ton	5,365.4	6,422.4
Hay, All (baled)	60,076	63,160	2.53	2.52	ton	ton	151,780	159,077
Rice, All	3,317	3,562	5,669	5,908	pounds	cwt	188,051	210,458
Sorghum, Grain	7,723	8,544	67.3	69.7	bushels	bushels	519,993	595,166
Sorghum, Silage	308	320	11.4	11.6	ton	ton	3,526	3,716
Soybeans	70,441	72,476	38.9	36.5	bushels	bushels	2,741,014	2,642,908
Sugarcane, All 2/	947.1	991.2	36.6	36.0	ton 3/	ton 3/	34,707	35,721
Sweet Potatoes	83.8	82.9	148	145	cwt	cwt	12,382	11,980
Wheat, All	59,002	53,909	43.2	42.7	bushels	bushels	2,547,321	2,302,443
Wheat, Winter	40,126	35,572	46.9	47.8	bushels	bushels	1,880,733	1,699,989

1/480-pound net weight bale; 2/Harvested for sugar and seed; 3/ Net tons.

LOUISIANA GRAIN STOCKS

Corn stocks stored off-farm on December 1, 1999, at 16.9 million bushels, were 9 percent less than last year's 18.6 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana were not published separately, but were included in the U.S. total.

Soybean stocks stored off-farm on December 1, 1999, at 9.0 million bushels, were 1 percent below last year's 9.2 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana were not published separately, but were included in the U.S. total.

All wheat stocks stored off-farm on December 1, 1999, at 16.9 million bushels, were up 10 percent from the 15.3 million bushels stored a year ago. On-farm stocks were not published separately, but were included in the U.S. total.#

LOUISIANA RICE STOCKS

Rough rice stocks reported in all positions on December 1, 1999, totaled 15.4 million cwt, virtually unchanged from the 15.5 million cwt, on hand last year. On-farm stocks of rice were estimated at 7.9 million cwt, up 76 percent from the previous year. Off-farm stocks totaled 7.5 million cwt, down 32 percent from last year.#

GRAIN STOCKS

ITEM	LOUISIANA		UNITED STATES	
	December 1		December 1	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousand Bushels		Thousand Bushels	
Corn				
On Farm	2/	2/	5,320,000	5,180,000
Off Farm 1/	<u>18,632</u>	<u>16,912</u>	<u>2,731,846</u>	<u>2,839,860</u>
TOTAL	2/	2/	8,051,846	8,019,860
Soybeans				
On Farm	2/	2/	1,187,000	1,150,000
Off Farm 1/	<u>9,152</u>	<u>9,031</u>	<u>999,440</u>	<u>1,032,192</u>
TOTAL	2/	2/	2,186,440	2,182,192
All Wheat				
On Farm	2/	2/	680,200	648,800
Off Farm 1/	<u>15,349</u>	<u>16,948</u>	<u>1,215,481</u>	<u>1,230,184</u>
TOTAL	2/	2/	1,895,681	1,878,984

Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. 2/Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

LOUISIANA RICE STOCKS

DATE	ON FARMS OR FARM WHSES.	IN MILLS AND ATTACHED WHSES.	IN WHSES. NOT ATTACHED TO MILLS	IN PORTS OR IN TRANSIT	TOTAL ALL POSITIONS
	(Domestic Units - 1,000 Cwt)				
	<u>ROUGH RICE</u>				
December 1, 1998	4,500	2,249	8,552	179	15,480
March 1, 1999	2,400	1,428	4,931	149	8,908
August 1, 1999	1/	1/	1/	1/	1,153
December 1, 1999	7,900	1,566	5,936	19	15,421

1/Included in unallocated to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES RICE STOCKS

DATE	ON FARMS OR FARM WHSES.	IN MILLS AND ATTACHED WHSES.	IN WHSES. NOT ATTACHED TO MILLS	IN PORTS OR IN TRANSIT	TOTAL ALL POSITIONS
	(Domestic Units - 1,000 Cwt)				
	<u>ROUGH RICE</u>				
December 1, 1998	35,584	10,631	74,532	231	120,978
March 1, 1999	22,290	9,745	47,409	806	80,250
August 1, 1999	1,560	5,516	9,432	118	16,626
December 1, 1999	50,762	11,112	78,012	67	139,953
	<u>MILLED RICE</u>				
December 1, 1998	----	3,861	128	1,427	5,416
March 1, 1999	----	3,700	172	472	4,344
August 1, 1999	----	3,230	103	444	3,777
December 1, 1999	----	3,679	185	721	4,585

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